

**In the Claims:**

1. (currently amended). A method for ~~the~~ treatment or prevention of conjunctivitis, said method comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a medicament comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a histacalin protein.

2. (currently amended). A method according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is ~~derived from~~ a blood feeding ectoparasite histacalin protein.

3. (currently amended). A method according to claim 2, wherein said blood feeding ectoparasite histacalin protein is ~~derived from~~ a tick histacalin protein.

4. (currently amended). A method according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is ~~the~~ an MS-HBP1, FS-HBP1, FS-HBP2 or D.RET6 protein, a functional equivalent thereof or an active fragment thereof.

5. (currently amended). A method according to claim 1 wherein a pharmaceutically-acceptable ~~excipient~~ carrier is also used in ~~the~~ manufacture of the medicament.

6. (withdrawn).

7. (withdrawn).

8. (cancelled).

9. (currently amended). A method according to claim 8, wherein said conjunctivitis is non-infective conjunctivitis, ~~preferably allergic conjunctivitis such as seasonal or perennial allergic conjunctivitis.~~

10. (new). A method according to claim 9, wherein said non-infective conjunctivitis is allergic conjunctivitis.

11. (new). A method according to claim 10, wherein said allergic conjunctivitis is

seasonal or perennial allergic conjunctivitis.

12. (new). A medicament for treatment or prevention of conjunctivitis, said medicament comprising a histacalin protein or a functional equivalent thereof or an active fragment thereof.

13. (new). The medicament according to claim 12, further comprising a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.